

# **USDA Foreign Agricultural Service**

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# Thailand Grain and Feed Weekly Rice Price Update 2007

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#### **Report Highlights:**

Export prices continued to increase due mainly to the strengthening Thai baht. Meanwhile, domestic prices eased as loading activities are less aggressive.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Trade Report Bangkok [TH1] [TH]

# **Indicative Prices (Week Ending Dec. 11):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations						Period Avg.		
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	625	-	640	592	620	615	605	616	608
WR 100 B	368	-	375	370	363	375	365	369	363
PB 5%	370	-	390	381	380	385	375	380	376
WR 5%	360	-	370	364	355	365	360	362	357
WR 10%	354	-	365	358	350	362	355	357	353
WR 15%	351	-	360	352	345	358	350	353	349
WR 25%	348	-	350	349	340	354	ı	348	344
WR 35%	345	-	-	346	ı	350	ı	347	343
A 1 SUP	333	-	-	334	317	340	328	330	324
A 1 SPEC	330	-	-	331	314	-	325	325	321
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters, Exchange rate: 33.4 baht/U.S.\$									

#### **Market Tone**

Export prices continued to increase due mainly to the strengthening Thai baht. (33.4 baht/\$ VS. an average of 33.7 baht/\$ in the previous week) Meanwhile, domestic prices of most grades of white rice changed insignificantly as loading activities are less aggressive, particularly for parboiled rice. Some exporters have fulfilled their outstanding contracts for volume sales to their customers. However, they reportedly still have new contracts for deliveries in the next couple of months.

Many exporters participated in the December 4 government tender of 511,730 tons of 5% grade white rice from old-crop intervention stocks. Some exporters, particularly those who are top 5 exporters, offered to buy the entire amount tendered. The bidding prices were offered at around 10,050-10,460 baht/ton (\$300-314/MT) for 2006/07 main crop, and 9,350-10,500 baht/ton (\$280-314/MT) for 2005/06 second crop.

The following are the reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO
ENDING			DATE		DATE AS %
					OF LAST
					YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	%
OCT 21	196,139	186,801	4,649	3,886	19.6
OCT 28	203,834	189,995	4,853	3,995	21.5
NOV 4	196,667	194,108	5,050	4,139	22.0
NOV 11	202,346	199,746	5,252	4,242	23.8
NOV 18	203,255	201,525	5,455	4,314	26.4
NOV 25	204,239	201,626	5,660	4,400	28.6
DEC 2	210,399	205,060	5,870	4,481	31.0
DEC 9	146,624	191,129	6,017	4,567	31.7

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Dec. 3-9, 2007 totaled 146,624 tons, down 63,775 tons from the previous week's total, and down 44,505 tons from the four-week moving average of 191,129 tons. Export during Jan. 1 – Dec. 9, 2007 totaled 6,016,886 tons, as compared with 4,567,473 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Nov. 30, 2007, amounted to 8,416,185 tons, up 24 percent from 6,778,803 tons in the previous year.

#### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Nov. 19-23, Nov. 26-30, and Dec. 3-7, 2007 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Nov. 19-23	Nov. 26-30	Dec. 3-7
Weekly sales	184,194	185,895	189,527
4 week sum	831,441	791,340	828,023
4 week mov. avg.	207,860	197,835	207,006
Total weekly sales	6,050,108	6,236,003	6,425,530

End of Report.